(b) if so, the areas chosen for setting up these centres in Andhra Pradesh;

(c) the criteria for considering locations for these development centres; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Gokak-Pandit Committee

2792. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have set up internal expert Committee viz. Gokak-Pandit Committee to examine issues regarding heavy subsidising of power and irrigation tariffs by the State Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent of subsidy per unit for power and irrigation, State-wise and total burden thereof;

(d) whether State Governments have been directed to revise power irrigation tariffs; and

(e) if so, the details of the action taken thereon by the States and the position thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) No such internal expert Committee viz. Gokak-Pandit Committee was set up by Government to examine the issues regarding heavy subsidising of power and irrigation tariffs by the State Government.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

Guidelines for Wasteland Development

2793. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the guidelines for development of country's wasteland; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA) : (a) There is no guidelines by the name of Guidelines for development of country's wasteland but the Ministry of Rural Areas and Employment have finalized the "Guidelines for Watershed Development" for all area development schemes of this Ministry. These guidelines include Drought Prone Area Programme, Desert Development Programme, Integrated Wastelands Development Projects Scheme, Employment Assurance Scheme and Intensive-Jawahar Rozgar Yojana. These guidelines are under implementation since 1.4.1995 on watershed approach.

(b) The details of the Guidelines for Watershed Development are given in the Statement.

Statement

Objectives :

1. The main objectives of these guidelines are to promote the economic development of the village community which is directly or indirectly dependent on the watershed through conservation of land and water resources to prevent further ecological degradation for sustainance for rural community, employment generation opportunities for the resource-poor and disadvantaged sections of the community, check land degradation, through soil and moisure conservation measures and aiming at increasing bio-mass production, to encourage restoration of the ecological balance in the village, equitable distribution of usufructs among the rural people particularly Scheduled Castes/Tribes, agricultural labour, shepherds etc. and involvement of Gram Panchayat/rural people of all communities including disadvantaged groups of society and voluntary agencies.
2. These guidelines provide for constitution of a State Watershed Programme Implementation and Review Committee at State level to co-ordinate and review the activities of the programme amongst various Government Departments and other Agencies involved in Watershed Development activities. The Department of Rural Development shall be the nodal agency to serve this Committee.
3. The Zilla Parishads/DRDAs shall be responsible for implementation of these guidelines at the district level and may constitute a Watershed Development Committee under the Chairmanship of the Chief Executive Officer/Project Director of the DRDA at the district level. They will approve the Watershed Development Plan and the selection of Project Implementing Agencies, training, community organization, publicity etc. The Zilla Parishads/DRDAs shall receive funds directly from the Government of India/State Governments for implementing the watershed development programme under these guidelines. Funds for